

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the entry of amendments to the specification and claims as earlier presented in Paper #8 filed on October 20,, 2003. Applicant further appreciates the withdrawal of the earlier rejections to Claims 4 and 5 under 35 USC 112 and of claims 1-7 under 35 USC 102 over Carper et al. There remains the rejection of Claims 1-7 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Butler (US 5,656,353) which is addressed immediately below.

Applicant has presently proposed amending the main claim to include the further limitation of injection molding. Support for this change appears at page 8, lines 20-22 and at page 8, lines 12-13 of the specification. The amendment is presented at this time as responsive to the instant prior art rejection, and Applicant respectfully requests entry of this claim change.

Butler discloses the use of compression molding, a process that is different from injection molding, to form his laminate. See: "[t]he metallic layer and the plastic insulation layer are compression molded together to embed the prongs of the metallic layer into the plastic insulating layer" [col. 1 lines 56-58] and "[t]he laminated material 12 is then formed by compression molding the plastic layer 18 to the metallic layer 20, causing the prongs 24 to be embedded into the plastic layer" [col. 2, lines 38-41]. Molding is also discussed in col. 1, line 65 to col. 2, line 2.

No mention is made of the possibility of using injection molding to form the laminated material, as disclosed and now claimed by Applicant.

In view of the above amendment to the main claim and the accompanying remarks, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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